National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Friday 21 March is this year’s recognized national day of action against bullying and violence. Throughout the week teachers will revisit the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan, teach and discuss the unacceptable behaviour – bullying. Ferny Grove’s long term procedure is to encourage students, teachers and parents to approach bullying in a proactive manner. Our behaviour support processes will always remain the primary strategy for preventing problem behaviour. From an early age our students are taught through discussion, role play and modelling the classroom and playground rules. Classroom teachers discuss and explore how the school values of respect, care and compassion, responsibility, effort, learning and co-operation underpin all expected behaviours at Ferny Grove. All children are receiving high levels of positive reinforcement for demonstrating expected behaviours, including those associated with following our routines from all members of staff. Bullying is the act of deliberately and repeatedly hurting another person either verbally, physically or emotionally.

Students are taught to identify bullying and calmly suggest the specific behaviour cease, to speak up and report the incident if the incident continues. When incidences of bullying are reported the incident is taken seriously and managed calmly. All involved are given a fair hearing. The target is reassured and the bully encouraged to appreciate the victim’s point of view. The school’s consequences for bullying based upon the School’s Responsible Behaviour Plan are explained to the bully and acted upon. Teachers, administrators and parents are involved in this process and possible solutions are explored and discussed to resolve future issues.

Cyber bullying occurs when the internet, email or mobile phone are used to deliberately and repeatedly engage in hostile behaviour to harm. As parents it is important to keep the lines of communication open so your child will feel comfortable talking to you when something worries them. Help your child develop the skills they need to interact safely and respectfully online. Guide their online activities and help them to learn to communicate appropriately with friends and family. For parent and child resources visit - [http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/).

Road Safety

It has been brought to our attention on two separate occasions in the last two weeks that possible accidents involving students and cars could have been a reality. Thankfully they weren’t. We ask all parents using the streets bordering the school to drive slowly and carefully observing all traffic rules due to the large number of children crossing these streets on their way to and from school. As an extra precaution the school will be closing the carpark gates before the end of the day to stop unnecessary traffic using the carparks to collect children.

Administration Team

Whilst Mr Shackleton is coaching Principals and Mr Cooke is unwell, Mrs Leanne Reid will act as Deputy for Years 4-7 as I step into the Principal’s role and Mrs Schott continues as Acting Deputy for Prep–3. Mr Reason has replaced Mrs Reid in Year 6R for two weeks and Mrs Newling will continue to replace Mrs Schott in Year 2NS until the Easter break.

Belinda Evans, Acting Principal
Ferny happenings

Shave (and Spray) for a cure
A big congratulations to our Ferny Grove students who sprayed and shaved their way to a fundraising total of $2800.25 to support Leukaemia Research. Thanks to all the supporters of our Spray for a Cure morning and our four brave Shavers, Jettzia Hyde (who raised over $1200), Dylan Malpass, Joshua Ryan and Joshua Boyd.

On Parade
Friday 21 May is the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. We recognised this important issue on Middle Year’s assembly this week.

I would like to share a speech written by Jed (6D) and delivered by himself and Carter (6D) at Monday morning’s assembly. The speech delivered by the two Peer Mediators has many valuable messages worthy of further discussion with your children.

Belinda Evans

“Anti-bullying Day is a day to remind us that bullying is never okay. Bullying is teasing or hurting someone constantly. No-one wants to be bullied. Bullying can happen anywhere. If bullying occurs you can see a Peer Mediator, teacher or parent. Bullying always feels awful. So why do it?

Most people who are bullied don’t tell anyone which results in more sadness and depression. The sooner you tell someone the less time you have to face bullying. Tell the bully, “I don’t Like it,” in a firm voice. Never get the bully back, since two wrongs don’t make a right. If possible ignore the bully, because they will eventually lose interest. On the inside bullies are just as scared as you. If your friend is being bullied be strong and stand up for them. Remember you have a right to feel safe, but you do not have the right to bully someone. Whatever you do stay positive and keep moving forward, because things will only get better. Remember BULLYING NO WAY and say no to bullying once and for all.”

Jed S, 6D

We will also be discussing this on Friday at Early Years Assembly so please join us at 2pm.
School news

Sushi Day
Our annual Sushi Day is coming up on Wednesday 26th March. Order forms went home last this week. Sushi Rolls are $2.50 each. Orders need to be returned to the Tuckshop by 9am on Thursday 20 March.

Helping hands
update
The children at OSHC have been very busy this week. They have been involved in a number of different activities. Skipping, jewellery making and butterfly decorations were very popular. The children and staff also had their hair sprayed to raise money for the Shave for a Cure! Vacation Care forms are now available. There are some great activities so come down and have a look!

Upgrade of eating areas
You may have noticed that the Year 1 and Year 4 eating area upgrades are almost completed with all the old paving removed and replaced with concrete, as well as some sandstone seating and new gardens with mulch. Students are enjoying these lovely new surrounds at eating time. Please remind your children to be gentle with our plants and stay on the paths.

School banking
SCHOOL BANKING DAY IS THURSDAY – that’s TOMORROW!
Welcome to so many NEW bankers – each one of you has earnt the school $5 just for banking at this school. Last week we had 95 bankers – which smashed the record for Ferny Grove!!! More bankers welcome. Open a YouthSaver account at Commonwealth Bank for your school age (or younger) children and bank through the school. Simply bring bank book to front office before school or through class satchel (P-3). We will give you student number and a token for each deposit (over 50c) made through school. Earn 10 tokens and claim a reward by a note in your deposit book – current rewards are handball, scented pencils, some left over moneyboxes, headphones, wallets and torches from last year.

NOTE - please ensure front of bank book has 2014 class on it and that all details of deposit are completed. Any questions phone 0437266530

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School photos

Ivy Photography has been here this week taking school photos. They will take a second round of sibling photos from 7 am tomorrow (Thursday) at the 1/2 playground. If it is raining in the morning photos will be in the library. Photos will be taken in order of arrival, so come early to ensure a spot! Envelopes will be sent home two weeks AFTER the photos are taken, with a proof of your child’s individual (and/or sibling) photo so you can see it before ordering.

Timetable for the rest of the week

Thursday 20th - Years 1 & 6 + 7T  
Friday 21st March - Years 2 & 4

Make sure your child wears proper school uniform, with clean shirt, respectable shoes and neat and tidy appearance!

Music news

Senior band and woodwind lessons

Rhonda Haringcaspel is away for a week’s long service leave commencing Monday 24th March. Hence no Senior band rehearsal or woodwind lessons will take place on the 24th. Children will not be required to play on parade that day.

Junior band

Junior band members are off to a flying start with practically every child remembering to attend last Wednesday. These rehearsals will take place every Wednesday with the band’s goal to play on parade once or twice next term and also entertain us on sports day with their marching band.

Instrumental music assessment auditions

All Year 7 instrumental music students and some identified pupils in the younger grades will undergo an audition process to demonstrate their practised skills. The audition will determine their Semester 1 reporting results and many students will also be invited to attend this year’s Advanced Music Camp in Term 2 as an outcome of their performance. The Advanced Music Camp is an extension program for the talented instrumental music students in our cluster of schools. The camp times will be from 8:30 am till 2:45 pm each day. On Friday, the parents and students join the instrumental music teachers for a BBQ at 5 pm which will be organised by the high school. The camp will conclude with a Twilight Concert held at the Ferny Grove High School Hall, commencing at 6:30 pm on Friday, 20 June. It will be compulsory for students to perform at the concert. The camp will cost approximately $120 per student including GST. This will include the provision of a camp T shirt which will be worn during the week and at the Twilight Concert. Sizes will be checked when camp places are offered.

Children will be notified of their assessment times this week. These will be held at school, during school hours, over the last two weeks of term.

Belinda Evans, Deputy Principal

Integrated Music Parent Support (IMPS) group

The next IMPS meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th March at 8:50 am in the staffroom. All parents/carers of children in the choral and instrumental music groups are invited to come along.

Amy Martin, IMPS Secretary
In search of the Easter Bilby

What a great adventure for our Preps this week at Bunyaville Outdoor Education Centre.

After riding on the bus and enjoying some lunch, it was time to explore the Bilby Burrow.

Then a hunt for Easter treasures, following the path of the reckless Bunny.

Finally the Preps spotted the Bilby and spent some time hanging out in the Bilby habitat.

A big thank-you to our parent helpers for their assistance and our teachers and staff for organising!
Shave and Colour for a Cure

A number of staff and students look somewhat different this week following our annual “Shave and Colour for a Cure” event last Friday. Students and staff had their hair coloured (washable, of course), senior boys had their legs waxed, and others had their heads shaved to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation, for its research into finding a cure and improving treatment options for leukaemia sufferers. The event, run by the Student Representative Council, was expertly hosted by President Ashleigh Shea. Probably the most spectacular hairstyle change belonged to Sarah Perkins, who made a huge sacrifice for the cause, even donating her fallen locks to raise further funds for the Foundation. Have a look at Sarah’s ‘before’ and ‘after’ photos - doesn’t she look amazing!

Junior Science Ambassadors

Welcome to our Junior Science Ambassadors Sanjay Razik, Phillip Todd, Izaac Seden and Kyle Warman. The role aims to develop young people as leaders and is specifically designed to provide an opportunity for younger students to participate in Departmental Science projects.

Julie Tabor, Acting Principal